

Fall 2014
MTSC 106
MWF 8 - 9:35 AM

Intermediate Algebra

MAT-35 Section Number 48342

Instructor: Mrs. Diana Pell

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Office: MTSC 122

Office Hours: MTWThF 10 - 11 AM or by appointment.

Communication: I will be using an app called Remind 101 to communicate with you. In order to receive my notifications text @math0035 to (909)726 - 5812.

Course Website: websites.rcc.edu/pell

Textbook: (Physical Textbook is OPTIONAL) Intermediate Algebra, 5th edition, by Alan S. Tussy and R. David Gustafson (ISBN: 978 -1-111-56767-5)

WebAssign (Required for the course): Your Web Assign account will give you access to the textbook and homework assignments. You will have three chances to submit each of the homework problems before the due date.

The WebAssign can either be purchased by buying the book at the bookstore with access code included (make sure you purchase a book that is bundled with an access code) or you can purchase it at the website **www.webassign.com** for \$75 once you enter the website. Either way, you will need to input the following class key when prompted: **rcc 7779 2491**.

Course Description and Goals: The concepts introduced in beginning algebra are revisited in greater depth; and determinants, logarithms, exponential equations, systems of linear and non-linear equations, the Binomial Theorem, complex numbers, sequences and series are explored.

Last day to drop without a W: September 7, 2014

Last day to drop with a W: November 14, 2014

Prerequisites: Successful completion (C or higher) of MAT-52 (Elementary Algebra) or appropriate score on the placement exam; or the equivalent.

Recommended Materials: No calculators will be allowed! It will be helpful to have a three-ring binder, pens/pencils with various colors, and some graphing paper.

Exams: There will be three exams (in class) throughout the semester (in addition to a comprehensive final exam at the end of the term). Each of the three exams is free response and requires complete responses (show ALL work for full credit). The final exam will be cumulative and will take place in the class. No make-up exams will be given. The final exam will take place in the usual classroom on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 from 8 AM to 10 : 30 PM.

Homework: Written homework will usually be assigned on Wednesdays, and due in class one week later (except in the first two weeks). There will be 10% penalty (per day) for late homework. Written homework assignments must be stapled. To receive full credit on written homework you must show all your work and box your final answers. Online homework will be assigned every Monday and due one week later (except in the first two weeks).

In-Class Work: Attendance is very important. Everyone is encouraged to answer questions during class. There will be a significant amount of small-group work. Quizzes could be given frequently in class without advanced notices.

Makeup policy: Unexcused absence from an exam results in a zero score.

Grading: Your grade will be based on the weighted average of your exams, in-class work, and homework scores, according to this formula: Quizzes, groupwork, and homework 16%, 54% in-class exams (18% each), and 30% final.

This course is graded on the following scale:

$A = 90 - 100\%$; $B = 80 - 89\%$; $C = 70 - 79\%$; $D = 60 - 69\%$; $F = 59\%$ or lower
This course is graded on the following scale:

Syllabus: We will cover most of Chapters 2 - 11 in the text.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory and will be taken every class. If you miss two or more consecutive class sessions or more than four total absences, you may be dropped from the class. In order to be considered in class you must arrive on time and stay the whole class period, otherwise you may be marked absent. Students who choose not to continue the course are responsible for officially withdrawing from the course. Please do not assume that I dropped you. Failure to officially drop the course may result in an "F". If you miss work after the deadline to drop and have an acceptable reason (like hospitalization), an "Incomplete" would be more appropriate. When in doubt, communicate.

Class Environment and Expectations:

- Your participation is essential. Math is not a spectator sport. You must do math to learn math!
- We are all here to learn. Please show respect for your classmates and their education as well as your own education. You are expected to conduct yourself in a professional manner. For instance, all electronic devices (cell phones, ipods, etc.) should be silenced while in class.
As they can be very disruptive to the class learning, cell phones are NOT permitted to be used during class at any time, this includes texting.
- Be sure to seek help if needed. This will help you be successful in the class.

Special Needs: If you have a physical, psychiatric/emotional, medical, or learning disability that may impact your ability to carry out assigned course work, I urge you to contact the staff in Disabled Student Services. DSP&S will review your concerns and determine, with you, what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Resources: I recommend studying together by forming study groups. Your classmates can be an excellent resource. You are also always welcome to come see me during my office hours. Tutoring is available in the Math Learning Center (located in MLK 305/307/308).

Reminder: It is expected that all work submitted be original, not copied from others, and that the work is indeed done by the student who is receiving the grade!

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course you should be able to:

- (1) Apply the basic operations of algebra on the set of real and complex numbers, polynomials, rational and radical expressions
- (2) Solve linear, rational, quadratic, exponential, radical, logarithmic, absolute value equations and systems of equations.
- (3) Solve linear, compound, absolute value, quadratic and rational inequalities.
- (4) Solve linear and systems of inequalities in two variables.
- (5) Graph equations of lines; graph basic functions; identify conic sections.
- (6) Recognize and determine the distinctions between functions and relations; apply basic operations on functions and find inverse functions.
- (7) Find the terms of sequences. Find the sum of series.
- (8) Communicate mathematically complete solutions.

General remarks: Be responsible for your own learning! It is up to you to find the best way to assimilate these ideas. Read the text, read your notes and think about the concepts as much as you can. It is better to study often in small doses than infrequently for long periods.

Cheating Policy: As an RCC student you are bound to the regulations and policies determined by the Districts Board of Trustees governing academic integrity. Board Regulation 6080, Section III. C. 1 and 2 approved on January 25, 2005 states: For instances of academic

dishonesty a faculty member may take any one of the following actions: The faculty member may reduce the score on tests or assignment(s), reduce the grade in the course, fail the student in the course or recommend to the appropriate administrative officer that the student be suspended from the course. If course suspension is recommended, the administrative officer will review the information regarding the instance of academic dishonesty, notify the student, and will prescribe appropriate due process procedures. The administrative officer will make note of the offense in the students educational records. A second instance of academic dishonesty may result in expulsion proceedings. Any tuition and applicable fees will not be refunded as a result of disciplinary action for academic misconduct.

⁰I reserve the right to make small changes to both your grade and the schedule due to unforeseen factors.

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